

April 11, 2022

Dear Honorable Chairman Senator Mae Flexer and Representative Dan Fox, Vice-Chairs, Ranking members and members of the Government and Elections Committee,

I am the Chairperson of the Chesprocott Board of Directors. I have served on this committee for over 8 years and serve as the current Chairperson.

I am writing to you today to show my support for Chesprocott Health District seeking land from the Cheshire Correctional Institution so we can build a health department facility on state land that will serve the communities of Cheshire, Prospect, and Wolcott.

The Board of Directors began discussing this need when the newly hired Health Director, Maura Esposito was hired in 2014. The current location which houses the health district is extremely small and undersized to meet the current needs of the community. We were about to relocate the health district when the pandemic occurred and decided to pause the move. In hindsight, we should have made the move but we didn't know what the future would be. Instead, the existing small facility was overwhelmed but they never lost sight of their goals. The staff was amazing during the pandemic and orchestrated over 85 vaccination clinics where the health department vaccinated over 15,000 people. Doing this all while managing high case counts, making calls to residents who tested positive, and operating a health department with a staff of 9. A truly unbelievable feat.

The staff and our health district deserve a facility where they can operate as efficiently as they have. The Board of Directors supports seeking land from the State so we can build a facility that will serve our community health needs now and in the future.

We hope that you will see this need and graciously grant this land acquisition.

Sincerely,

Liz Normand  
Chairman  
Chesprocott Health District